

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the Office Action mailed January 12, 2005.

By this Amendment, claim 1 has been amended to more particularly define the present invention. Support for the claim amendments can be found throughout the specification and the original claims, see, in particular, page 15, line 5, to page 17, line 4, and page 38, line 11 to page 39, line 7, of the specification. Thus, claims 1-18 are pending in this application.

In view of this Amendment, Applicants believe that all pending claims are in condition for allowance. Reexamination and reconsideration in light of the above amendments and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102

Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Chino et al. (U.S. Patent Publication 2002/0022700). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

To constitute anticipation of the claimed invention, the cited reference must teach each and every limitation of the claims. Here, in this case, Chino et al. fails to teach or suggest the limitation “*an amino group-containing compound which is selected from the group consisting of methylamine, ethylamine, propylamine, butylamine, hexylamine, octylamine, nonylamine, decylamine, dodecylamine, tridecylamine, tetradecylamine, pentadecylamine, hexadecylamine, cetylamine, laurylamine, stearylamine, oleylamine, dimethylamine, trimethylamine, benzyldimethylamine, methylenediamine, ethylenediamine, tetramethyl-1,6-hexanediamine, xylylenediamine, tetramethylxylylenediamine, diethylenetriamine, diethylaminopropylamine, N-aminoethylpiperazine, tris(dimethylaminomethyl)phenol, triethylenetetramine, N,N'-dimethylethylenediamine, N,N'-diethylethylenediamine, N,N'-diisopropylethylenediamine, N,N'-dimethyl-1,3-propanediamine, N,N'-diethyl-1,3-propanediamine, N,N'-diisopropyl-1,3-propanediamine, N,N'-dimethyl-1,6-hexanediamine, N,N'-diethyl-1,6-hexanediamine, N,N',N''-trimethylbis(hexamethylene)triamine, dipyridylamine, dipyridyl, ethylenedipyridyl, trimethylenedipyridyl, phenazine, purine, pteridin, dipyridylamine, 1,2-bis-(4-pyridyl)-ethane, 2 (or 4)-(β-hydroxyethyl)-pyridine, 2 (or 4)-(2-aminoethyl)-pyridine, 2 (or 4)-aminopyridine, 2,6-diaminopyridine, 2-amino-6-hydroxypyridine, 6-azathymine, metaphenylenediamine, diaminodiphenylmethane, diaminodiphenylsulfone, 3-amino-1,2,4-*

triazole, pyrrololine, pyrrolidone, oxyindole (2-oxyindole), indoxyl (3-oxyindoxyl), dioxyindole, isatin, indolyl, phthalimidine, β -isoindigo, monoporphyrin, diporphyrin, triporphyrin, azaporphyrin, phthalocyanine, hemoglobin, uroporphyrin, chlorophyll, phylloerythrin, imidazole, pyrazole, triazole, tetrazole, benzimidazole, benzopyrazole, benzotriazole, imidazoline, imidazolone, imidazolidone, hydantoin, pyrazoline, pyrazolone, pyrazolidine, indazole, pyridoindole, purine, cinnoline, pyrrole, pyrroline, indole, indoline, oxindole, carbazole, phenothiazine, indolenine, isoindole, oxazoles, thiazoles, isooxazoles, isothiazole, oxadiazole, thiadiazole, oxatriazole, thiatriazole, phenanthroline, oxazine, benzoxazine, phthalazine, pteridine, pyrazine, phenazine, tetrazine, benzoxazole, benzoisooxazole, anthranyl, benzothiazole, benzofurazane, pyridine, quinoline, isoquinoline, acridine, phenanthridine, anthrazoline, naphthilidine, thiazine, pyridazine, pyrimidine, quinazoline, quinoxaline, triazine, histidine, triazolidine, melamine, adenine, guanine, thymine, cytosine and urazole,

wherein one or more hydrogen atoms of the amino group-containing compound can be substituted by an alkyl group, an alkylene group, an aralkylene group, an oxy group, an acyl group or a halogen atom, and a hetero atom can be added into a skeleton of the amino group-containing compound”.

The Examiner states in paragraph 3 of the Office Action that “*Chino et al. discloses a thermoplastic elastomer composition comprising a thermoplastic elastomer having a carbonyl-containing group and a nitrogen-containing heterocycle in a side chain thereof ([0012]-[0020], [0024]-[0030], [0039]-[0040], [0051]-[0055], [0082]-[0084] and [0120]-[0122])*”. The Examiner also states that this composition can “*further contain aliphatic or aromatic hindered amine type compounds (see [0153])*”.

In view of the Examiner’s interpretation of the claims, Applicant has amended the claims to restrict the “*amino group-containing compound*” in claim 1 to specific compounds. Thus, the claims no longer encompass compositions containing “*aliphatic or aromatic hindered amine type compounds*”.

Hence, since the teachings of Chino et al. can no longer be interpreted to read on the claims, this rejection can no longer be sustained and should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, all the claims now pending in the present application are believed to be clearly patentable over the outstanding rejections. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration of the claims in light of the above remarks is courteously solicited. If the Examiner has any comments or suggestions that could place this application in even better form, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the below-listed number.

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Respectfully submitted,

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